

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A kit detecting anti-collagen antibody in a biological sample, wherein said antibody is associated with rheumatoid arthritis, comprising (i) an ~~antigenic preparation~~ antigen comprising the CB10 peptide of mammalian type II collagen or an antibody-binding fragment of said peptide and (ii) means for detecting a complex formed between said ~~antigenic preparation~~ antigen and antibody from said sample.
2. (Canceled)
3. (New) The kit of claim 1 further comprising (iii) written instructions that said antigen be brought in contact with a biological sample from a mammal, for a time and under conditions for an antibody-antigen complex to form, and that the presence of said antibody-antigen complex be detected, indicating the development of rheumatoid arthritis in said mammal.